

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on July 15, 2009 at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1-A, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia Bouffard, RN, Chair
Amanda Campbell, RN
Jennifer Long, APRN
Katherine Pellerin, RN
Maria Pietrantuono, RN
Donna Roberts, LPN
Ivelisse Varrone, Public Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Mary M. Brown, RN
Heidi Darling, LPN
Veronica Kivela, Public Member

ALSO PRESENT: Tanya DeMattia, Assistant Attorney General
Diane Cybulski, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH
Pamela Pelletier, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Bonnie Pinkerton, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Matthew Antonetti, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Ellen M. Shanley, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Kristina Kerwin, DPH Law Intern
Janice E. Wojick, Administrative Assistant, DPH
Tynan E. Cooney, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:32 AM.

STUDENTS

Chair Bouffard welcomed DPH Summer Law Intern Students from Suffolk Law School and Boston University Law School.

PRESENTATION: STANDARDS OF CARE DURING A PROLONGED PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

Attorney Marianne Horn, DPH Attorney in the Office of Research and Development, was present to discuss the draft whitepaper on the Standards of Care During a Prolonged Public Health Emergency. Commissioner J. Robert Galvin formed an advisory workgroup on January 10, 2008. The workgroup was comprised of ethicists, clinicians, local and state public health professionals, and lawyers. The workgroup was chaired by two of the DPH legal staff, Donna Brewer and Marianne Horn. Wendy H. Furniss, RNC, Branch Chief of Healthcare Systems and Dr. Albert Geetter, Section Chief of the Operation Branch at the Department served as subject matter experts to the workgroup. The first meeting was held on February 28, 2008. Dr. Galvin invited people to participate in an advisory workgroup whose responsibility was to identify key ethical, legal, and practical principles to guide decision-making for health care delivery during mass casualty events such as pandemic influenza. Everyone's expertise was needed for this important initiative. DPH will utilize these guiding principles to assist the public in gaining advance understanding of the difficult ethical choices that will need to be made if such an event occurs. These principles will also assist the provider community by insulating them from potential punitive responses as a result of their involvement in caring for the victims of a mass casualty and/or pandemic influenza. In a prolonged emergency situation, the goal will be to do the "greatest good for the greatest number of people."

Roll out of the whitepaper will be in the fall, 2009. One possibility is that the workgroup will organize the roll out to communicate with the five Regions in Connecticut to ensure a good outreach. Each team will cover a multitude of topics in their regional meetings. The goal of the regional roll out is to get the information to health professionals, town officials, and the public and to get their comments, provide feedback, and make any necessary changes. Meetings will need to be in a venue that is comfortable to the audience such as universities, town halls, etc. Each group will focus on the same issues. We will also provide speakers at public meetings and to groups such as the Connecticut State Medical Society, the CNA Annual Meeting and other nursing organizations, etc. The workgroup is hoping to have this finalized by the end of the year.

Questions from the Board were as follows:

Will this document address the various levels of nursing?
Could someone speak to the Departments Heads of the LPN Programs at the Technical Schools?
Should this whitepaper be part of the curriculum in all nursing programs?
Who makes the decisions – are there guidelines on who that should be and their expertise?
Who trains the people to make sure they follow the whitepaper?

Attorney Horn reiterated that this document is not considered "guidelines," it is a "guidance tool."

REVIEW OF MINUTES

MAY 6, 2009

Amanda Campbell arrived at this time. The Board reviewed the minutes of May 6, 2009. Donna Roberts moved and Ivelisse Varrone seconded that the minutes be approved as edited. The motion passed with one abstention, Patricia Bouffard.

MAY 20, 2009

The Board reviewed the minutes of May 20, 2009. Katherine Pellerin moved and Jennifer Long seconded that the minutes be approved as written. The motion passed with two abstentions: Ivelisse Varrone and Maria Pietrantuono.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION – MARY McMANUS aka MARY SMYTH, RN

Janice E. Wojick presented the Board with a Memorandum of Decision for Mary McManus aka Mary Smyth. Maria Pietrantuono moved and Jennifer Long seconded to affirm their prior decision to revoke the respondent's license. The motion passed unanimously.

SCHOOL ISSUES - FACULTY EDUCATION WAIVER REQUEST – GATEWAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Diane Cybulski introduced Pamela Pelletier who is a DPH Nurse Consultant. Ms. Pelletier has been appointed as Donna Canalis' replacement and will assume responsibilities for the nursing programs. Ms. Pelletier can be reached via phone @ 860-509-7445 or e-mail @ pam.pelletier@ct.gov The Department is also hoping to train another person as a back up to assist the Board.

The Board reviewed documentation received from Sheila Solernou, Director of Nursing at Gateway Community College. Ms. Solernou is requesting a permanent faculty education waiver for Maryjo M. Gargano beginning with the fall 2009 semester. Ms. Gargano has a BSN degree and a Master's in Business Administration with a concentration in Health Care Management which will be helpful in providing leadership skills/time management delegation of activities, and assist in providing the students with information for payer systems, Medicare and Medicaid. She will be placed with freshman level students in a geriatric clinical rotation. She will be oriented to the school August 27, 2009. She has already completed a four-day shadow experience in the clinical area with a full-time faculty member. She will also be mentored by the course leader and nurse counselor. Katherine Pellerin moved and Donna Roberts seconded to grant Ms. Gargano a permanent waiver for Gateway Community College. The motion passed unanimously. Permanent waivers are not transportable. If Ms. Gargano moves to another nursing program she would have to apply to the Board for another permanent waiver for that facility.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION – MELANIE MEADE, LPN

Legal Office Attorney Leslie Scoville and Suffolk Law School Summer Intern Kristine Kerwin presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Melanie Meade. Ms. Meade was not present and did not have representation. Katherine Pellerin moved and Maria Pietrantuono seconded to grant the Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order and the Notice of Hearing scheduling the hearing for August 19, 2009. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION FOR INTERIM CONSENT ORDER – YOLAINE JEAN-GUILLAUME, RN

Legal Office Attorney Matthew Antonetti Law Intern Kristina Kerwin presented the Board with an Interim Consent Order (ICO) for Yolaine Jean-Guillaume. Attorney Martha Murray was present representing Ms. Jean-Guillaume who was not in attendance. Jennifer Long moved and Amanda Campbell seconded to grant the ICO suspending Ms. Jean-Guillaume's license until such time as the petition is ultimately resolved. The ICO will allow the Department and the Respondent further opportunity to evaluate this matter while providing protection to the public in the interim. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION – CHRISTINE M. WEST, RN

Legal Office Attorney Diane Wilan presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Christine M. West. Ms. West was not present and did not have representation. Maria Pietrantuono moved and Jennifer Long seconded to grant the Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion passed with all in favor. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order and the Notice of Hearing scheduling the hearing for August 19, 2009.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION – MICHELE WHEELER, RN

Legal Office Attorney Diane Wilan presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Michele Wheeler. Ms. Wheeler was present without representation. Amanda Campbell moved and Donna Roberts seconded to grant the Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion passed with all in favor. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order and the Notice of Hearing scheduling the hearing for August 19, 2009. Ms. Wheeler was hand delivered the Summary Suspension Order, the Notice of Hearing, and the Statement of Charges.

CONSENT ORDER - LISA VINCENZI, LPN

Legal Office Attorney Diane Wilan presented the Board with a Prehearing Review/Consent Order for Lisa Vincenzi. Ms. Vincenzi was present without representation. Katherine Pellerin moved and Ivelisse Varrone seconded that this Consent Order be accepted. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT ORDER - ELDRED MATHIEU, RN

Legal Office Attorney Linda Fazzina presented the Board with a Prehearing Review/Consent Order for Eldred Mathieu. Eldred Mathieu was not present and did not have representation. Maria Pietrantuono moved and Donna Roberts seconded that this Consent Order be accepted. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT ORDER – DAVID CHOMICK, RN

Legal Office Attorney Linda Fazzina presented the Board with a Prehearing Review/Consent Order for David Chomick. Mr. Chomick was present without representation. Katherine Pellerin moved and Donna Roberts seconded that this Consent Order be accepted. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION TO WITHDRAW STATEMENT OF CHARGES – ELIZABETH GARCIA, LPN

Legal Office Attorney Linda Fazzina presented the Board with a Motion to Withdraw the Statement of Charges as Ms. Garcia has signed a Voluntary Surrender of License Affidavit. Jennifer Long moved and Maria Pietrantuono seconded to accept the Motion to Withdraw the Statement of Charges. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT ORDER – MARLEE GARLANDA, RN

Legal Office Attorney Ellen M. Shanley presented the Board with a Prehearing Review/Consent Order for Marlee Garlanda. Ms. Garlanda was not in attendance nor was she represented by counsel. Katherine Pellerin moved and Maria Pietrantuono seconded to accept the Consent Order. The motion passed with all in favor with the exception of Patricia Bouffard and Amanda Campbell who were opposed.

CONSENT ORDER – JOHN COOKSON, LPN

Legal Office Attorney Ellen M. Shanley presented the Board with a Prehearing Review/Consent Order for John Cookson. Mr. Cookson was not in attendance nor was he represented by counsel. Amanda Campbell moved and Ivelisse Varrone seconded that the Consent Order be accepted. The motion passed unanimously.

Break 10:02 AM – 10:18 AM

HEARING – VANESSA KING, RN

Legal Office Attorney Ellen M. Shanley was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. King was not present and was not represented. Attorney Ellen M. Shanley received a phone call from Ms. King stating that she would not be attending the hearing.

Legal Office Attorney Ellen M. Shanley presented the Board with a Motion to Amend the Statement of Charges. Katherine Pellerin moved to accept the Motion, which was seconded by Donna Roberts, and which passed unanimously.

Legal Office Attorney Ellen M. Shanley presented the Board with a Motion to Deem Allegations Admitted in the Amended Statement of Charges. Katherine Pellerin moved to accept the Motion, seconded by Maria Pietrantuono, and which passed unanimously.

Katherine Pellerin moved and Donna Roberts seconded to find Ms. King on all charges. The motion passed unanimously.

Katherine Pellerin moved and Ivelisse Varrone seconded that Ms. King's license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

HEARING – BILLIE J. PRITCHETT, RN

Legal Office Attorney Diane Wilan was present representing the Department of Public Health. Billie Pritchett was not present and did not have representation.

Legal Office Attorney Diane Wilan presented the Board with a Motion to Deem Allegations Admitted. Ivelisse Varrone moved to accept the Motion, seconded by Katherine Pellerin, and which passed unanimously.

Katherine Pellerin moved and Maria Pietrantuono seconded that Ms. Pritchett's license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present that this meeting be adjourned at 11:04 AM.